Received Pronunciation (RP)

PLACEMENT: More forward – between lips and in front of teeth.

*The cat is in the house.*

LONG-O (Grow)

[oU] becomes [ ]

*No, go, home, alone, grow, solo, notion, explode*

* *Of all the folks I know, he is the most helpful*
* *I wrote to Joe, hoping he would grow up*

SHORT-O (Knowledge)

[ ] becomes [ ]

*Hot, got, honor, common, orange, shop, Bobby, contest*

* *Sir Lancelot traveled nonstop to Camelot*

*Coffee, lofty, cloth, moth, lost, moss, wrong, song*

* *Lost boys often sell cloth*

*What, want, wash, watch*

* *What do you want to watch while doing the washing up?*

BROAD-AW (brought)

[ ] becomes [ ]

*Paul, autumn, awful, flawless, call, wall, walk, talk, thought*

* *The tall author walked awkwardly*

SHORT-I ENDINGS (every)

[ i ] becomes [ ]

*Mary, mostly, pretty, twenty, thirty, foggy, lovely*

*Generally, Mr. Hornsby’s parties are lovely*

*Money earned faithfully should be given to the needy*

-ARY ENDINGS (necessary)

[ ] and [ ] become [ ]

*Necessary, secretary, ordinary*

*Is it ordinary for him to be so contrary?*

SHORT-A Shift (glass)

[ ] occasionally becomes [ ]

- Before “f” sound (*after, laugh, half, calf – but not caffeine, saffron, sapphire)*

- before “s” sound (*fast, last, repast, pass – but not gastric, hassle, tassle)*

- before voiceless “th” (*bath, pathway, wrath – but not mathematics, catholic)*

- before “ns” sound (*dance, chancellor, France – but not fancy, cancer, romance)*

- before “nt” sound (*advantage, plant, chant, can’t – but not fantasy, fantastic, tantalize, ranting)*

- occasionally “nd” sound (*commander, demand, slander – but not grand, stand, hand, land)*

- these words: *banana, example, sample, soprano*

LIQUID-U

[ ] becomes [ ] before the consonants in the phrase: Daniel Sitteth

*Duke, duel, due, neutral, nuclear, news, Tuesday, tune, tunic, lubricate, ludicrous, lunatic*

DROP-R

When “r” follows a vowel, drop the “r” glide: *runner, player, helper, sweeter, heavier, earth, word, work, curse, thirsty, burn, star, car, alarm, hard, march, four, door, chores, more, important, clear, here, tears, career, hair, pair, barely, everywhere, scared, sure, cure, endure, secure*

R-SHADING

*The burglar and his helper stirred up such a clamor*

*This summer went faster and further than last*

*If you’re scared, be prepared to run downstairs*

WEIRD EXCPTIONS TO REMEMBER

*Again and against (both with long-a)*

*Been (pronounced like “bean”)*

*Clerk (pronounced like “clark”)*

*Figure (pronounced f-i-g-a)*

*Garage (with first syllable stressed)*

*Either and neither (with long-i)*

*Process (with long-o)*

*Hostile, missile (with long-i)*

*Laboratory (stress the second syllable)*

*Tomatoes (with “ah” instead of long-a; not same with potatoes)*

*Weekend (stress second syllable)*